life of Wilson, and he studiously avoided giving any information of himself. He claimed to be a Catholic. Outside of the Court House a large number of people were collected, several tents were pitched, and ome shrewd geniuses were making an honest penny by dispensing small heer and gingerbread to the hun-gry multitude. It was a holiday, and seemed to be esjoyed, netwithetanding the solemn scene of depriving a human being of life was being enacted within the sounds of their voices.

CITY ITEMS.

Mrs. H. Beecher Stowe sails on Wedges lay next for Europe. She will brieg out her book " On the In fluence of Slavery upon the White Population," a por-tion of which has already appeared in *The Tribuno*, during her absence, both in England and in the United

REPUBLICAN MEETING AT STATEN ISLAND -The Republicans of Southfield held a meeting at the Tomp kine Lyceum, Stapleton, which occasion was the first (fficial gathering of the Fremont Club. An address was made by the Hon Minthorne Tempkins, the President. Mr. Center, and Mr. Wm. J. A. Fuller also made effective speecher. Some excellent songs were sung, and the Club adjourned.

ST JOHN'S (EPISOCPAL) CHURCH -Several import ant siterations and additions are now being made to this cenerable place of public wership. The church (with its front tewer and spire modeled after the church of St. Martia's in-the-Fields, London,) was built about eighty years ago, in the most substantial and workmanlike manner, regardless of expense, and was long considered the most fashionable place of worship in the city. The most important charge about to be made, or at least the one most likely to be appreciated by the congregation, is that of cutting down the un-comfortable, old-fashioned, high backed pews, to the extent of five inches, and facing them snew with mahogany or black wahut of modern pattern, in lieu of the old narrow strips of painted pine, while the seats, we believe, are likewise to be so altered as to contribute much to the comfort of the occupants. The old pulpit is to be taken out and replaced by a new one of modern style. The old chancel has been entirely removed, and a new apsidal chancel is to be added to the rear of the church, extending fourteen feet into the rooms used for the Sabbath School. In the construc-tion of the new chancel the style of architecture and finish observed in the body of the church will be carried out The floor will be of inlaid marble, raised two feet six inches above the floor of the church, and reached by a flight of three steps. It will be lighted by a dome. In order to make up for the encroschment made upon the Sabbath-School rooms, and to meet the demand for additional accommodations for the Sabbath School department, a new building, 51 feet by 28, three stories high, is to be erected on the south side of the rear building, so arranged as to be used in cornection with the spare room in the latter. In the rear of the north-east corner of the church a vestry er robing-room is to be erected. On the completion of the preposed alterations or additions, the whole interior of the church will be repainted and otherwise improved in appearance. The work is rapidly progressing, and will be completed at the usual time of re opening in September.

The Committee on Public Health of the Board of Councilmen met yesterday afternoon, in Mr. McClens-han's office City Hall, for the purpose of considering va-rious matters referred to them. Will-am H. Crane, Chairman. The Committee determined upon report ing favorably to the following resolutions and petitions: Resolution to have sunken lots bounded by Forty-third and Forty-fourth streets and Eleventh and Twelfth avenues drained. Resolution directing the City Inspector to fill in sunken lots cerner of Thirty-eighth street and Fifth avenue. Resolution to fill sunken lots on Fortieth and Forty-second streets, between Eleventh and Twelfth avenues. Petition to fill sunken lots on First avenue and Thirteenth street. Resolution to fill supken lots on Fortieth street, be tween Second and Third avenues. Petition to fil tween Tenth and Eleventh avenues. Petition to fill upken lots on Forty-second street, between Taird and Lexington avenues. Petition to fill sunken lots between Forty first and Forty-second streets and Ninth and Tenth avenues. Resolution to fill sunken ots on Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets between avenues B and C.

The Committee also determined to have a large number of open lots in the upper part of the city head from covering them with garbage and other matter deleterious to the public health.

FATAL ACCIDENT- Two GIRLS DROWNED,-Or Tuesday last two girls were drowned from the boat Freemason (in tow of the steamer Belle), Capt. Anson C. West of Canada, Allegary County, near Esopus Light, on the Hudson River. The oldest girl was out fourteen years old; the other was a little girl four years old, and was the daughter of Capt. West.

ATTEMPT AT RAPE. -Thomas Manly was committed to Kingston Jail for an attempt to commit a rape upon the person of Minerva Merrihew, a school teacher. Miss Merrihew is a very respectable lady, and was on her way from school one day last week, when Manley attempted to accomplish a most villanous ontrage upon her person. Fortunately he failed, through the resistance of the girl, and is now in safe quarters until the

A CRUEL WRETCH .-- A German named William Marz, was taken before Ald. Clancy, at the Tombs, yesterday, charged with beating his wife, a sicklylooking woman, who was present. Her eye was black and swellen from the blows she had received. She is subject to fits, and evidently has very frail health. Her disconsolate and dejected appearance excited the sympathies of the spectators. Marx conby quoting Scripture, saying the Bible commanded wives to obey their husbands, and if they do not, the bushands should make them. He was dismissed by the Court, with a reprimend, and informed that if he need his wife badly again, he would be sent to Blackwell's Island

Workmen are now engaged in laying pipes for Croton water through the Ninth avenue, from Fourteenth to Forty-second street. The pipes are thirty two inches in diameter. In this work, much labor and expense is involved as the avenue is filled with large rocks a short distance below the surface, rendering heavy blasts

REDISTRICTING .- The Special Committee of the Beard of Councilmen, to whom was referred the matter of redistricting the several Election Districts throughout the city, met yesterday afternoon in the Council Chamber, City Hall. It was determined upon making one district of the First Ward, instead of two, the present number; uniting the Second and Third Wards into one districts, and making two districts of the Fourth Ward, instead of three as at present. 11,500 inhabitants is the number allowed to each district. The object is to lessen the Election Districts in the lower part of the city, owing to the decrease in populatice, and to increase the districts up town. The subject will not be finally settled for some time yet.

BOLD BURGLARY .- We understand that that a bold burglary was committed a night or two since in Bleecker street, near Brandway. The burglars got hold of a safe and moved it down stairs, but we be Neve did not get the money.

New Engree House .- The Common Council have the matter under consideration of appropriating the rische park corner of West Broad way and Beach street, r on engine house for Engine Company No.

16. The Board of Councilmen have maye the appro priation, and the matter will come up wfore the Alder men for action either in August or September. This fine company is composed of residents of the Fifth Ward, and is one of the most active and energetic in the department. It was organized in September, 1854, in place of Engine Company No. 31, disbanded.

ACCIDENT TO MANAGER BURTON,-William E Button has sustained a very severe injury, which will certainly incapacitate bim from appearing before the public for many weeks, if it should not lead to more serious results. It appears that on Thursday Mr B. was about leaving his residence at Glen Cove to come to the city by way of the Long Island Railroad. As the horses were starting with himself and servant, one of the animals reared and threw Mr. B. out, who, fall iog on his back, sustained an injury in the region of the spine. Two surgeons in the vicinity were in attendance on him as early as possible, but as they could not determine the extent of the contusion, De Carnochan was summoned by express the following day and he pronounced a favorable opinion, recom mending the utmost quietude and freedom from excitemers. Yesterday morning the report was that Mr. Button was comewhat better.

COMMISSIONERS OF HEALTH .- The Board of Health met yesterday in the Mayor's Office, Ald. Barker, President, in the chair. Present: Dr. Rockwell, Dr. Miller, Dr. Thompson, and Benjamin F. Pinckney; Walter R Condelin, Secretary. The steamships Tennessee and Philadelphia, arrived yesterday from Hayana and New-Orleans; detained at Quarantine The subject was Isid over till to-day. The brig Ernestine Giddings, from Cardenas, was reported. She was ordered to discharge her cargo on lighters; vessel to remain at Quarantine for ventilation.

The schooner E. H. Miller, from Carthagena, with fustic and hides. There being no sickness on board she was allowed to proceed to the city after ventila

tion; hides to be landed out of the city.

A portion of the cargo of the brig Leo, from Havana arrived on 10th inst , was allowed to be brought to

The brig Restovandor, from Humacoa, was reporte -crew all well. Having come from a healthy port she was allowed to proceed after cleaning. Mary Mean, from Tobasco; Quarantine for ten days. Bark Cormer, from New-Orleans; no sickness; allowed to proceed to the city, her cargo of hides to be landed out of the city. Bark Marie, from St. John's, P. R; allowed to proceed on or after Aug. 3d proximo. The Board then adjourned.

INTERESTING AND EXTERTAINING, -Since the close of the July session of the Board of Conneilmen, many of the members seem at a less how to dispose of their time during these long and sultry afternoons Nearly every day between the hours of three and six o'clock, many of the members assemble in the Clerk's office and, with their feet upon the round table, form a pic tucesque group. Subjects of a varied nature are openly discussed Occasionally "Mary," the apple and candy vender, with her heavily laden basket, makes her appearance, when the conversation takes a different turn. At one of these interesting meetings, he d yesterday afterooon, a vote was taken as to choice for President. The Dark Lantern men were loud in their notes, and "Old Merritt of the Sixteenth Ward," as he was pleased to call himself, said he didn't care who knew how he voted—he was a Fillmore man "out and out." The vote of another member being called for, he asked, who's cet de mashority-I vaut to know who's co de mashority pefore I wote." The gentleman, we be-heve, declined voting, although he seemed icclined to make bets on Buchanap. A reporter present offered to publish the vote providing the voters would give their names, but such a list was not prepared. Several attempts were made to get up bets, but none were made, and the meeting adjourned at a late hour

ARTIFICIALLY BEST SHIP TIMBER. - The experiments at the Novelty Works on the strength of bent as compared with naturally crooked knees have just been concluded, and the results, so far as handed us, appear on the whole very highly favorable to the bent sticks. The fact that perfectly sound, straight timber may always be obtained at a moderate cost to submit to the bending process, gives the bent sticks a consid able superiority over the naturally deformed wood. The knees were tried by bending both outward and inward by the aid of an hydraulic press. The artificially bent wood is the most elastic. In one case, when a ten and a half-inch knee of extraordinary strength required a strain of 38,500 pounds to spring i two inches, at which point it broke suddenly, a bent strain, but exhibited not the least fracture. In other cases the resistance to springing only one or two inches was somewhat greater with the bent timber. Bent timber seems to lose little if any of its strength by being sprung to a considerable degree, and allowed to return several times. The naval officers in charge of the experiments, will, we understand, make a full report to the Government on the ascertained strength and stiffness of the material, and the probable effect of its elasticity on the tightness and durability of vessels in which it may be employed.

DEATH OF AN ARTIST. - The well-known landscape painter, Thomas Doughty, died on Wednesday in this city, of disease of the brain, and in great pecuniary

THE CASE OF CHIEF FARLET OF JERSEY CITY .-The friends of Mr. Farley, Chief of Police at Jersey City, claim that injustice was done him in the pub-lication which appeared in our issue of yesterday merning, in regard to an alleged attempt on his part to abduct a girl named Emma Smith. The Chief states that the girl had informed him that she was indebted to the woman with whom she lived in Centre street, who would not allow her to leave until the debt wa cancelled, and that the was very desirous of getting away from that woman, and begged him to liberate her. In compliance with this request, the Chief visited the house on Wednesday evening, but the girl had changed her mind and did not wish to leave. He then left her, not wisking to interfere further. In justice to Mr. Farley we give his explanation of the

affair:

CORRECTION.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

I perceive that my name was published in your Police Reports, yesterday, in decidedly unfavorable connection, and in a manner unwarranted by the facts; although your reporter undoubtedly was told what he caused to be published. I have not attempted abduction nor have I had a single person of the Jersey City Police force, or Night Watch, with me upon any such errand. This story has arisen out of a personal difference between me and another man. In proof of what I say I refer to Capt. Dowling of the Sixth Ward Police, who presides over the Ward, and at the Station House, where the occurrence is said to have taken place. If necessary to refute the statement, I shall call upon persons who were with me—not otherwise July 15, 1856.

CHAS. J. FARLEY.

Syranya.—The weight of Alderman Enlances, the

STRAWS.—The weight of Alderman Fulmer's statement among those who knew them:

During an excursion of the Sabbath School attached to the Seventh street 41. E. Church, on the 23d inst., there were present affly-four legal voters, not one of whom would vote for a Roman Catholic to fill the Presidential chair on any conditions and on the Presidential chair on any conditions, and on taking a vote at the time, there were found to be for Fremont, 30, Fillmore, 9, Buchanan, 6, and undecided, 9. Signed, ONE OF THE EXCURSIONISTS.

A VOICE FROM ENGLAND,-At a meeting held in the Town Hall, Bridgewater, England, the Rev. S A.

NHOP-LIFTING.—Alex. H. Amour, a den'est, siving at Trenton, N. L. was restorated at the danuerelan establishment of Mr J W. Thou pro No. 3 5 Broadway, in the set of stanling locksta, dagmernelan plates, ir., to the v-lue of \$58, and was arrested by Officer Evans of the Fif h. Ward Police On being taken before Ald. Cancr. he extued himself by stating that he had raken too much laser bear, which is terfered with his reason, and he was tempted to take the articles from the fact that Mr. Thou pson owed him money. The magistrate held him to await examination.

the New-York Hospital yesterday on the body of Jemes Evans, a seilor born in France, and its years of see, who died from the effects of a fall from a window of the boarding-house No. 52. Oak streef, received early yesterday morning. Decessed was fourd by the Police lying in his night clothes upon the sidewall bleed ng prefusely, and was carried to the Hospital, where he died. The Jury rendered a verdict of "accidental death."

age, whose parents reside at No. 339 Greenwich street, died yesterday at the New York Hospital, from the effects of injuries received on the 4th of July. The deceased, it appears, was toodilk his pistel, when it went off prenaturely and shattered his hand, causing injuries which finally resulted fatally. An increat was held upon the body and a vardiet of "Accidental Death" rendered."

SUDDEN DEATH.—Milton Sweeby of Pleasant Valley dies suddenly on Wednesday last of disease of the heart. A moment before he was talking to one of his neighbors.

MESSRS. W. P. FETRIDGE & Co. have sent in the early sheets of a novel which carries us back to the good oid times of the "Pieuces". The scene is laid at and show. Saratogs; the time is sixty years ago or thereshouts, when a log hut recupied the sire of Congress Hall; where bears and panhers shounder as much as lap dogs and dendies now do; and where standy pionee's, brave revolutionary soldiers, wary Indians, and willy Hall breeds drait. The plot of the story is well conceived, the advectures are full of the most sheeb hay interest, and the characters are drawn and contrasted with admirable skill. The capture of the fair Lucile by the manite. Jacob, and the pursuit through the forest by Catfoot and his associates, is capitally narrated; and the securing experience of Jim McCarty and Sandy Bigham are true pictures of events that occurred in 'the times that tr'ed men's souls.' The love-story that is intermit gled with these more stirring secones, is very delicately and truly American novel that has been written for the last twenty years.

A FAVORITE REMEDY.—We believe no medi-cine has ever given stronger proof of its efficacy than the OXY-GENATED BITTERS. In cases of Dyspepeia and General De-bilty restring health and cheerfulness, when all other remedies have failed.

DISEASES OF THE LUNGS.—NOTICE.—Dr. HUN-respectively. The would give hotice, that during the hot mouths of Soumer no patients will be received after it p.m. daily. Persons requiring examination should, if possible, select the morn-ing. For the convenience of consultation by those who are unable to visit the city, a list of questions has been prepared and will be forwarded, on application, together with a copy of the Specialist, giving a full explanation of the treatment by Inha lation. No. 828 Broadway, New York, July 14.

TRAS.—THE CANTON TEA COMPANY have on band every variety of Teas for Grocers, Tea Deelers, and private families—Souchong, Oolong and Young Hyson, from the to the, Gunpowder and Imperial from 25c. to 5c.—all other qualities equally low. Also, 3 B. boxes of good Family Tea for one dollar. Call and examine—No. 125 Catham-st., between Pearl and Roosevelt-sts.

It is a historical fact that the marble-neaded Queen Hilmsbeth would dit alone in the dark, in sorrow and it tears. An ancient historian asserts that she was weaping over the fate of Ea or and Mary, but a more modern writer affirm that she was lor sing for a box of Russia Salve, wherewith it use in cases of Burns, Scalis, Sores Frosted Limbs, Piles, Can sers Ulcers, etc. Manufactured by Redding & Co., No. 8 State st., Boston, and sold by all Druggists at 25 cents and \$1 per box

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT BY THE BREAKING OF A SCAFFOLD.

OF A SCAFFOLD.

ONE MAN KILLED AND EIGHT INJURED.

A dreadful accident occurred in the Second Congregational Church in Court street, corner of President street, yesterday afternoon, by the falling of a soaf fold. Nine persons who were on it at the time were precipitated to the floor beneath, a distance of forty One man was killed outright; three were fatally injured, and the remainder more or less seriously hurt. The building is a new one and nearly ready for occupation The scaffolding was erected on the inside. where the workmen were engaged in plastering the ceiling. They had just returned from dinner and were commencing their labors, when a cross-pole or bearer, upon which the planks are laid, gave way, and all thereon were precipitated to the floor beneath. Nine persons were on the platform at the time, of whom two only escaped with slight injuries; the one by catching hold of an upright pole and descending thereby, and the other by jumping into the recess for the organ. The crash of the fall was heard for several blocks and the neighbors ran in to ascertain the

hand, and the unfortunate men were extricated from the pile of planking which had fallen upon them with all practicable speed. One man was taken out dead, three others could not speak. Drs. Leach, McDopald, Chapman, Burke and Frink were summoned, and extended all the relief in their power. Some of the injured were taken to the nearest drag stores, and others to the Hospital. The following are the

JAMES Wisz, plasterer, corner of Columbia and Congress streets, killed.

MICHAEL CONAGHAN, laborer, taken to the hospial. Supposed fatally injured.
PRIER COYLE, No. 240 Gold street, plasterer, sejously injured. Taken home.

JAMES CURLEY, laborer, corner of Warren and Nev-

ine streets, arm broken. Taken to the hospital. ALEXANDER Ross, plasterer, Court street, danger-

ously injured. Taken to the hospital. PATRICK LTOS, laborer, Warren street, near Bond recovery doubtful. Conveyed to the hospital.

JOHN McQUADE, laborer, corner of Bergen and Powers streets, seriously injured. Taken to hospital. Joseph Golding, laborer; injuries slight; saved himself by descending one of the poles. WILLIAM WATT, one of the contractors, slightly in-

jured; saved by jumping.

The contractors are Messrs. Walson & Watt. The latter was somewhat injured. The scaffolding was strongly made, but one of the poles was found to be defective, and upon this pole the whole weight rested. When it gave way the whole came down.

The occurrence created great excitement about the neis bborhood, and a large crowd soon gathered about. Three of the men at the Hospital are not expected to survive till motning.

Coroner Redding paid a visit to the scene of the dis-

aster and inspected the construction of the scaffold. He will hold an investigation to-day. ANOTHER FATAL ACCIDENT .- Yesterday & man

named James Cornelly, of No 53 Adams street, fell from the third-story window of his residence, and was instantly killed. The Coroner was notified to hold an nvestigation.

BROOKLYS "PATHFINDERS."-The Eleventh Ward Pathfinders of Brooklyn held an cuthusiastic meeting on Thursday evening, 24th instant. Mr. H. P. Halsey in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. A. D. Gale, who, in a humorous manner, related how Millard Fillmore was initiated into the Know-Nothing Order in the private parlor of Mr. Adolphos Gustavus Scroggs, erq., after stipulating that in case he (Mr. Fillmore) was not nominated, Scroggs should say nothing about it. When the speaker concluded Capt. B. P. Benson of the United States Army arose, and stated that his grand ather had been a Democrat, his father also, and that he himself had grown grey as a Democrat, but that if his life should be spared until next November, he would east his vote for Freedom After a few remarks from the Presi-

dent, the meeting adjourned with three cheers for

GERMAN REPUBLICANS -The Germans of the Six trenth Ward met at the hotel of Mr. Stehlin, No. 85 Montrose avenue, last evening, in large numbers, to constitute a Republican Club-Mr. Rechr in the chair. After a fine address by Mr. F. Hine, some American gentlemen present put the question whether they could join this German Club, being in the minority in this ward A long controversy ensued, showing eviden'ly how difficult it is to come to an understanding when two different languages are spoken. Resolutions were adopted to invite the American citizens to a cordial cooperation. However it was decided by the latter to form a separate Club Mr Melignon of New York then spoke of the issues of the day, and the meeting adjourned with three cheers for Frement and Dayton.

RUN OFF THE TRACK.—One of the locomotives of the Long Island Railroad ran off the irack cear the South Ferry yesterilay, and tore the railing that divides the Railroad grounds from the atrects. Several apple stands were smaded, and one old apple man was slightly injured. Nothing serious resulted.

NEW-JERSEY ITEMS.

THE FIRE AT SOUTH AMBOY.—The fire at the derect of the Can den and Amboy Railroad, at South Amboy, broke out at I o'clock on Thursday morning, and destroyed six passenger-cars, three of which were new, and 1,500 cords of wood.

A COAL-BURNING LOCONOTIVE.—The New-Jersey Bailroad Company have just placed upon their roats new loco-motive called the 'Phomix' which bur is coal instead of wood. It is a Yankee invention, manufactured by W. M. Mason & Co., of Taunton, Mass.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

DECISION IN THE DU LUX CASE.

SURROGATE'S COURT-JULY 21-Before A. W. BRAD-FORD, Surrogate.

In the matter of the application of John P. Farrié for letters of administration upon the estate of Joanne Da Lux, Jacossed-This case was argued before the Surrogate on the 18th, 19th, and 21st days of January last. The argument was made by Charles O'Conor, esq , for the Pablic Administrator, by John Jay, esq., for the French claimants, and by Robert H. Sherwood and F. Ball, esqrs., for the claimant, Ferrie; Patterson and Eastman, Proctors for claimant Ferrie; John Jay, Proctor mar, Proctors for claimants, and A. B. Tappen, Proctor for Public Administrator. The Surrogale commences his decision with a full review of the evidence taken in France by the Commission sent out last Summer, an abstract of which has already been published in The Tripune. Jeanne leart was born at Pan; on her father's decease went to Biert, a little hamlet, where her mother kept a tavern, and where Jeanne hvod unfil she was nineteen. The testimony taken at Biert goes to show that she had a good reputation so long as she lived there; that she removed to Massa' soon after her mother's death in 1796, and that no report of her intercourse or marriage with Valentine Ferrié ever reached Biert; no rumor of the birth of her child having reached Biert until after Jeanne returned from the United States. The general ignorance of Biert in relation to her sufficiently accounts for the abscape of a special repute as to her marriage. In Massat she lived from 1796 to 1798. This village is but four miles from Biert, and then contained a thousand inhabitants. Two witnesses here testify to her intimacy with one Eppagnac, and one of them says that she had a son by him; his te timony, however, contradicts itself, and all the other witnesses concur in indocsing her character. It 1798, when Jeanne was twenty-one, she went to St. for French claimants, and A. B Tappen, Proctor for

Epagnae, and one of them says that sate as a solution, him; his te timony, however, contradicts itself, and all the other witnesses concur in indosing her character. It 1798, when Jeanne was twenty-one, she went to St. Girons to live as a domestic in the family of M. Anere, and two years afterward her son was born. In the next house lived Balthazar Ferric, a tamer, whose son Valectin became attached to Jeanne; their love was mutual; they yielded to its impulse and became the parents of the child who now, after the lapse of fifty-six years, claims the succession of his mother's estate. Jerome Victor Ferric, son of a cousin of Valentio, was born in 1813; yet he speaks very freely of events which occurred before he was born, and it is principally since the death of the applicant's mother that he has heard he was illegitimate. Other testimony of the same kind is quite as loose. Witnesses born in 1803 sweat to an acquaintance with Jeanne before she came to the United States, which was in 1806. The testimony of Sidal, which is circumstantial, and that of Margot Labat te Galai, go to show that Valentia's father was very much opposed to his marrying Jeanne; that the character of both, so far as other people we e concerned, was irreproachable; that J anne had a son by him, which was born at the house of a Mr. Benoz, and sent out to nurse next morning; that Jeanne made the bargain and paid the nurse, and text Valentin lived with her as her husband for some time before and after the birth of this child. Margot knew that they wished to be married, but whether they ever had been she could not tell. She had heard of Valentin calling Jeanne, Jeanne Ferric, and had heard other people call her M'me Ferric many times. They both went to see the child at nurse, and went to Borleans together. Catharine, a younger sister of Valentin Ferric, deposes that Valentin heart on marry Jeanne, but that their father would not listen to it, and Valentin left the house and never came back to live. Their child died soon after it was born, and ab Ribat swears that he last saw valentin exists in that month. This testimony is to a great extent unimportant, and to a great extent also unreliable. It is not to be expected that in a city of five thousand inhabitants the marriage of a young artisan and a domestic, compelled by poverty to live separately and pisce their offspring in the charge of strangers, should leave very obtained traces after a lapse of sixty years. The period of their intercourse was brief, and there was nothing remarkable in it; those who were most interested in it are gone. Three only of the St. Sirona witnesses speak as to conteuropraneous facts. Daffis, an acquantance of Ferrie, was six years the junior of Valentin, and says that Valentin never spoke to him about his relations to the child or its mother. He knew she was his bonne amic, because they went to Diert together. This is a very insufficient reason for inferring an illicit connection. Valentin's father told him that Valentin stole leather from him to provide

him about his relations to the child or its mother. He knew she was his bonne dmie, because they went to Diert together. This is a very insufficient reason for inferring an illicit connection. Valentin's father told him that Valentin stole leather from him to provide her with money; told him also that Jeanne was Valentin's bonne omie, and that he was very much opposed to their marriage. Giving the words bonne amie their worst signification, there is nothing in his evidence inconsistent with their marriage in 1800, for no doubt before that period Jeanne and Valentin had unlawful intercourse. Several other assertions of this witness were proved to be unfounded. Catharine Ferrié was so young at the birth of the child-only five years' old—that it is searcely worth while to notice her testimony. Margot de Gilai says that she knew Jeanne's mother when he came to see her at Anée's, and at that time the mother had been buried three or four years. She gives wrong names and makes manifest misstatements.

It is obvious to my mind, after a careful examination of the evidence, that the witnesses, including the three now under review, mingle in a greater or less degree information derived from hearsay, or from facts developed in this country before the commission was issued, with their own knowledge and recollections. Although it is difficult if not impossible to distinguish between these sources, still there are certain prominent facts which it wou'd be hardly reasonable to doubt. Here was a young man and an attractive if not becautiful won an of good reputation living in an adjacent house as a domestic; Valent a Ferrie forms an attachment for Jeanne leart, which is reciprocated. His parents frown upon the affair; but, as one of the witnesses expresses it, "there was a wall between them, "that was all," and their intercourse was continued. They desired to marry; the father was opposed to it, and Valentin left his bome and occupied an apartment with Jeanne. Before their chi d was bore bans of two proposed marriage were publi

he marriage.
Passing to 1815, when as Mme. Du Lax the Passing to 1815, when as Mine. Du Liux the mother again appeared at St. Girone, and assumed the duties of materning, we find frosh statements on the subject of reputation. As she declared that her has bard knew that this was her son, and placed him with her old master Arére under the family name of his father, and all the cironmetances attending this case are so strange and singular it is not surprising that a rimer should have arisen as to his illegiousacy. Her describes both of father and child, and her connection pictons unfavorable to her fair name. But the series of information of the prints to have received information on that point from persons living at the birth of Ferris, and I am not clear, upon the face of the evidence, whether there witnesses meant to state that dence, whether there witnesses meant to state that anything more had been communicated to them than anything more had been communicated to them than that Jeanne, when she lived at St. Girons, "had had that death of the documentary of the documentary

Ferris, and I am not clear, spot mean to state that dence, whether these witnesses mean to state that dence, whether these witnesses mean to state that anything more had been communicated to them than that Jeanne, when he lived at St. Girons, "had had "a child by a person named Ferrie"

I come now to the consideration of the legal princeples by which all the proofs are to be tested in their indicial by which all the proofs are to be tested in their indicial weight and estimate. It is an established maxim that the presumption is always in favor of marriage, (Steadman vs. Pawell, I Add. R. 52). In the rules of presumptive evidence, as well as in the rules of relative weight of different pranumptions, the law is not so regardless of humanity as to reject stairs 19 the claims of chality and the appeals of helpiess o-phasage. The presumption of innot-noc is one of those specially favored. The mere cohabitation of two persons of different seves without proof one way or the other of the character of the connection, affords an inference of marriage, people are presumed to be moral tather immunal. (Taylor vs. Taylor, 2 Les 274.) So, too, where fliation is proved, legitimacy is generally presumed. (Best on Presumptions, 57-8; Hubbeck on Successions, 248-50.) The remotencess of the affair increases the force of the presumption. Where the event is old and the patities are dead, and where an accident may have destroyed the key to the truth, presumptions, with controling force, impel the investigator to seize held upon those favorable conductsions which the law draws for the protection of mac. (Piers vs. Piers, in the House of Lords, Clark and Finelly, 189.) Two persons had long been in concubrage, and on the approaching but not a child, it is alleged, were married in from by acceptance of Lords (Clark and Finelly, 190.) For persons had long been in concubrage, and on the approaching third or a child, it is alleged, were married in from the controling force, impel to the control of the vice of the presumption in favor of mar

rovisions.

The esserce of the matriage contract is consent; words and forms are but the external indications of this agreement, and have nothing to do with its validity. The ceremony may be expedient and becoming, but it adds nothing to the intrinsic force and sacetity of the obligation. In the sight of God, the vital power of the institution resides in the mutual covenant singly. It consists in "the present consent "whereby the parties accept each other as husband and wife, whether by words expressly or tacitly by "marital cohabitation, or acknowledgment." (Stair's Justi., l. l, lit. 4, sec. 6.) The proof of the existence of marriage depends largely, nowever, on the forms required by the local law. Among the Romans marriage could be contracted without any formalities, by the mire agreement of the parties, and its proof therefore was drawn from exterior sigus. Cohabitation as husband and wife was the ordinary evidence invoked for its judicial establishment. By the canon law, consent alone was the essence of the contract, and this has been the role in every civilized and Curistian community, except as modified by positive regulation. The public solemnity, even when prescriber, was only matter of order, and irregular marriages, including promises to marry, if followed by enjoyment of the privileges of marriage, were asstained as valid contracts. (Dalrymple vs. Dalrymple, 2 Hagg C. R. 34.) Marriage was presumed from cohabitation, under the canon law, throughout Christendom, un'il the Council of Trest prescribed the presence of a priest and three witnesses, and the preservation of registers of marriage in all the parishes. This was but an ecclesiactical regulation, but it was confirmed in France by the ordinance went into effect, marriage was no lenger presumed merely from cohabitation where the parties were living, and could point to the time and place of the celebration. Still, there was no rule limiting the establishment of the inarriage to evidence from the register, and by an ordinance of 1567, and successive nance went into effect, marriage was no larger presumed merely from cohabitation where the parties were living, and could point to the time and place of the celebration. Still, there was no rule limiting the establishment of the marriage to evidence from the register, and by an ordinance of 1667, and successive decisions under it, that where the parents were deceased there was no necessity for the children proving the actual celebration of marriage, provided the fact itself were reasonably established by other testimony. The law stood thus until, by the edict of Louis XVI., in 1787, the Constantion of 1791, and the Act of the National Assembly in 1792, marriage was again recognized as merely a civil contract; the necessity of regigious solemnitics was dispensed with, and although certain public forms were prescribed, they were not made essential to the validity of the contract, except in enumerated cases. (Toullier, l. 1, Tit. 5, Sect. 501.) The Code Crvile snally introduced provisions regulating the mode of proof. Under the Code, if the act of burth did not stand in the way, there was a presumption that the parents were legally united. (Dinartin, l. 1, Tit. 7, Sec. 109, 110. Code, Art. 197.) Farrie was born before the Code, and his case is to be illustrated by previous decisions. The most famous of these is the one in which the celebrated Cochin was conspicuous. The children of Barthélémi Bourgelat, son of Pierre Bourgelat and an Italian woman, made a claim of succession to the estate of their grandfather. No act of his marriage could be produced, nor was it indicated where the rit; was performed, although the place where the rit of the median paper in Italian, which the officer having per in chairs and only recommended to be a marriage countract, and he dismissed her home. It was also hown that. Pierre Bourgelat, and

parents lived publicly together as man and wife (Art. 194, 197).

It is clear, therefore, that the applicant is not compelled to produce the acte of matriage of his parents. A fire destroyed a portion of the public records of the Commune of St. Girons on the night of the 25th-26th December, 1798, and from some cause or other scarcely any records of an earlier date than 1802 exist. A notice of publication, dated May 6, 1800, is preserved. It has already been published in The Tribune.) The word "Leant" was written in the margin, and a cross drawn over the face of the acte. Not e of the actes contained in the volume were signed. The words themselves are irregular, and the acte of nullification, if grounded on the opposition of the father, was irregular from not noting the opposition and the judgment. The Code Napoleon provides for the loss or mutilation of records (Art. 46). It is quite probable also that under the new system inaugurated by the French Revolution there were many irregularities by the public officers, especially in the country, and it was not till 1803 that the Ministery of the Interior addressed forms of the acte to the various functionaries in order to prevent these irregularities. I conclude therefore from the existence of actual irregularities, from the ansence of the acte of birth and the destruction of the records which might have led to the detection of defects, that it is not improbable there may have been a public acte of celebration of marriage. The presumption in favor of the marriage prevails over the silence of the register. In cases or

French law we must regard the law of the time ampot the subsequently enacted Code. On the day where Ferrié was carried to the baptismal fort, such an acte as this was something more than proof of flistion. In the acte Jeanne Icat is represented by her maiden name; this, however, was the comman of not the small form of actes of birth at the time. It is urged that the parents are not stated to be married, nor is the child declared to be legitimate, a particle of the Code Civile, settles that point, and the law of 1792 presenthen mention of legitimacy on an acte of birth. The same rule is presumedfrajapp'y to an acte of baptism, which alone we have in this case. Merlin gives the front rack is importance to the acte of baptism, which alone we have in this case. Merlin gives the front rack is importance to the acte of baptism, which alone we have in this case. Merlin gives the front rack is importance a custom of inearting the word legitimate as a "superfinous precaution." After mentioning several qualifications of illegitimacy, he states that when these are absent, and the acte contains "the names of the child, the father, mother, "geolfather and godmother, it imports necessarily and "by free of law a presumption of legitimacy," the states that when these are absent, and the acte contains "the names of the child, the father, mother, "geolfather and godmother, it imports necessarily and "by free of law a presumption of legitimacy," and the acte to the contains a superfinous of legitimacy, it is also that the large of the combe of the fact are living, and one of them was then additional to suffer. "The single quality of d

mere halance of probabilities. Jeanne's describe of the child and its father, and her forming the acquaint-ance with Dn Lux as a maiden, styling Ferric as her nepbew, are not such controlling facts. They are not unsusceptible of explanation. It is not difficult to im-